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# Lord Mohun's VINDICATION.

9. Dec. 1712.

**F**inding that *Abel*, notwithstanding the frequent Reproofs of the *Polite* and *Ingenious* Author of the *Flying-Post*, doth still continue to asperse the worthy Members of the *Whig* Party, in order to make his Court to a *Faction*, who are with great *Propriety*, called his Masters, I cannot forbear animadverting even on so vile a Scribler; especially since there is a Set of People weak enough to be misled by what, he, with so little shew of Probability *imposes* on the Publick; one need not give a greater Instance of the little Regard this Wretch has to the Truth of what he publishes, than by reciting a Passage out of his *Post-Boy* of the 20th instant, where, speaking of the Duel between Duke *Hamilton*, and Lord *Mohun*, he concludes the Paragraph thus: N. B. *This is the 4th Person that my Lord Mohun had the Misfortune to kill.*

Here I cannot help observing that, if this Remark were true, it must however appear very malicious, as well as foreign to the purpose; for the worst Enemies of that noble Lord, must acknowledge, That the first Duel he ever fought in his Life, was that with Duke *Hamilton*, on the 15th of the last Month. Whether his Lordship's Hands had been unfortunately died in Blood, now and then on a Frolick, ought to be no part of the Question, since it is well enough known, he hath put up many gross Affronts to avoid the Censure of being Quarrelsome.

But as the present Case stands, this Aspersion of *Abel's* is not only malicious, but groundless. Nothing being more evident, than that my Lord *Mohun* was not the *immediate*, and very probably not the *remote* Cause of Duke *Hamilton's* Death.

In order to illustrate this Matter the better, and to shew that my Esteem for that good and gallant Man, my Lord *Mohun*, does not make me depart in the least from the Truth of the Fact, it may not be improper that I should give some short Account of the Proceedings at the Coroner's Inquest.

*First*, The Physicians and Surgeons, who view'd Duke *Hamilton's* Body, did all unanimously declare, That the mortal Wound, which went in between his Left Shoulder and Pap, and reach'd to his Midriff, was a Stab, and such a one as they judg'd could not possibly be given by my Lord *Mohun*, who never once clos'd with his Grace during the time of their being engaged.

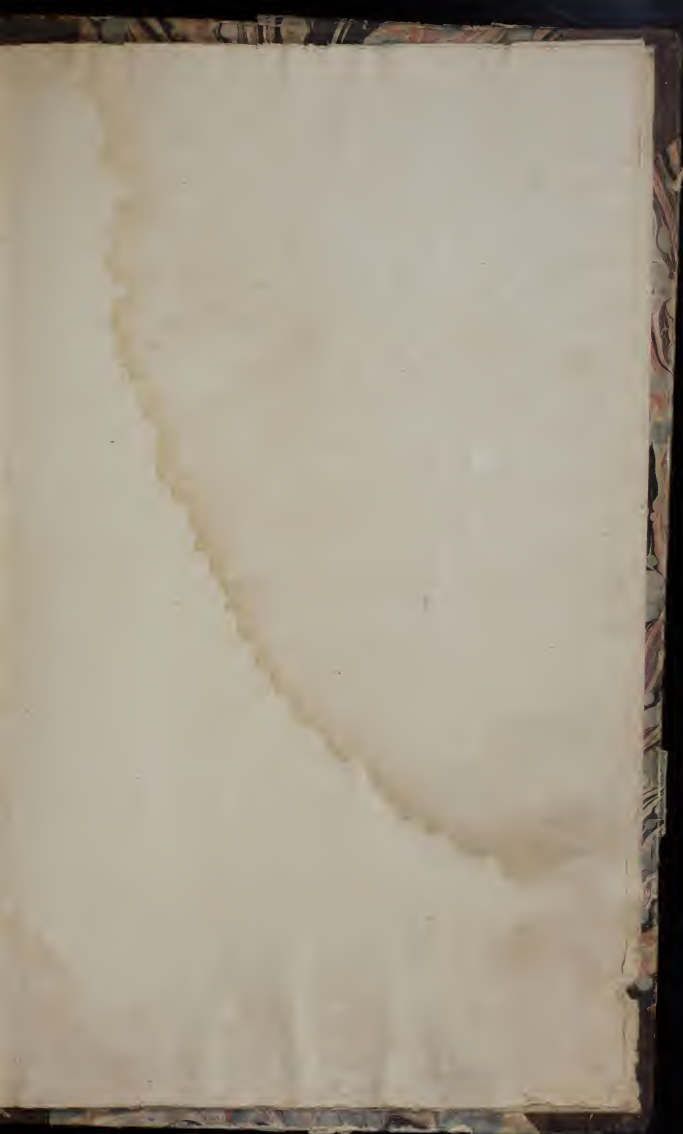
*Secondly*, It appear'd very plainly to be done with a three-edg'd Sword, whereas that, my Lord *Mohun* fought with, was two-edg'd.

*Thirdly*, *Massey's* Sword was found bloody 14 Inches, which being the exact Depth of the Duke's Wound, is a still further Evidence in my Lord *Mohun's* Favour.

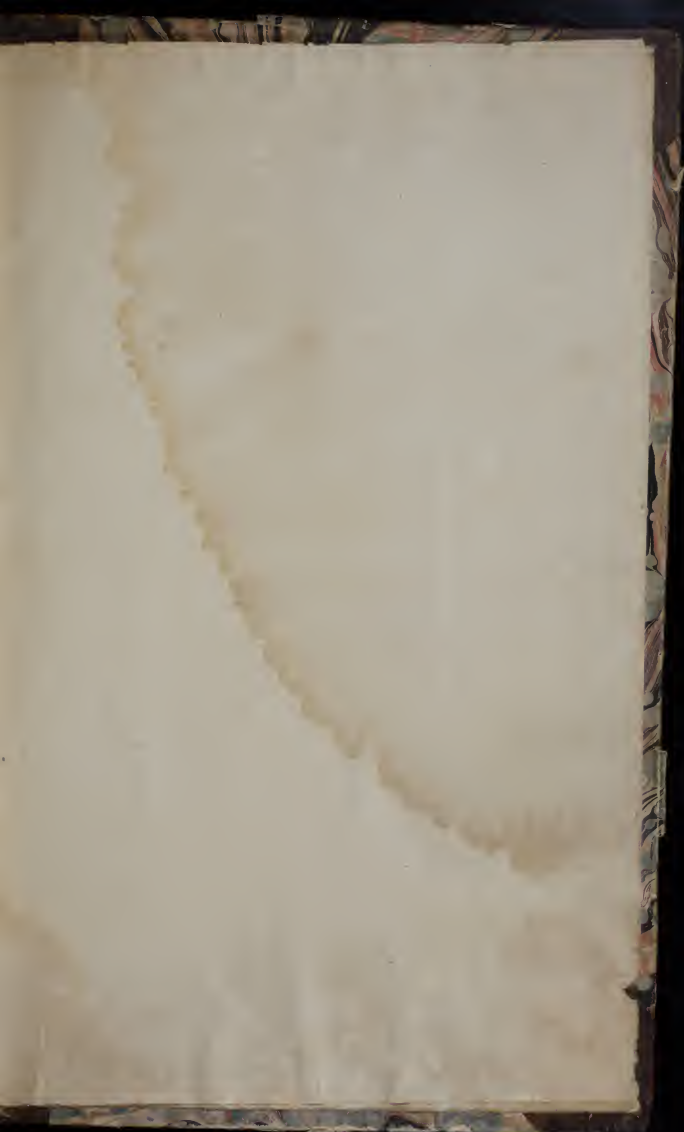
*And lastly*, Col. *Hamilton*, who was an Eye-witness of all that pass'd in *Hide-Park*, (and who is a Man of as unquestionable Honour as a Tory can be) declar'd, upon his Examination before the Lords of the Council, that whilst he held the Duke in his Arms, and was helping him up, *Massey* took an Opportunity to make the Sword, which he just before receiv'd, with his Life, from the Hands of his Second, who had disarm'd him, the Instrument of his Grace's Death.

I hope this will be sufficient to convince all those who are not blinded with Party-Prejudice, that the Imputation of killing Duke *Hamilton*, which *Abel* so impudently charg'd on my Lord *Mohun*, is false and groundless, and design'd to cast black and odious Colours on the bright and immortal Character of his Lordship.









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